

General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2001

LCO No. 7275

Offered by:

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SEN. WILLIAMS, 29th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. **962** File No. 168 Cal. No. 183

"AN ACT CONCERNING CHILDREN IN OUT-OF-STATE PLACEMENT."

Strike out everything after the enacting clause and substitute the following in lieu thereof:

"Section 1. (NEW) (a) Any state agency that places a child, as defined in section 17a-93 of the general statutes, in a residential facility shall enter into a written contract with the facility at the time of the placement. Such written contract shall establish clear standards for the child's care and treatment, including, but not limited to, requirements for monthly written reports and weekly oral communication concerning the child's care and treatment. The written contract shall require the facility to report promptly to the placing agency any allegation that the child is abused or neglected, as defined in section 46b-120 of the general statutes, or any incident of abuse or neglect of an individual placed in the facility. The written contract also shall set forth child-specific goals and expectations for treatment and progress.

(b) The placing state agency shall ensure that an individual who is

SB 962 **Amendment**

16 qualified to evaluate the child's treatment and progress monitors the 17 child's care and treatment through a monitoring plan that is based 18 upon the child's individual needs, including review of monthly written 19 reports, and weekly telephone calls to facility staff responsible for the 20 child's treatment and, if appropriate, the child. The placing state 21 agency shall visit the child and facility based upon the child's 22 individual needs, but at minimum shall visit once per month for in-23 state placements and four times per year for out-of-state placements. 24 The placing state agency shall ensure that a discharge plan is 25 developed within two weeks of the child's placement in the facility. 26 The same qualified individual responsible for monitoring the child's 27 treatment shall review on a quarterly basis the contract and the 28 discharge plan for progress toward treatment goals and conditions 29 necessary for discharge.

Sec. 2. Not later than January 1, 2002, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Education, and the Office of the Child Advocate, shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, on its findings and recommendations concerning the creation of an independent licensing and monitoring authority for residential facilities for children.

37 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect from its passage, except that section 38 1 shall take effect October 1, 2001."

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